

## United States Attorney District of New Jersey

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## TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FILING FALSE TAX RETURN WHICH INTENTIONALLY UNDERREPORTED INCOME

NEWARK, N.J. – An Ocean County, N.J., mortgage brokerage owner and real estate appraisal company shareholder pleaded guilty today to filing a false tax return which did not fully account for his income, U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

Jeffrey Lewis, 52, of Toms River, pleaded guilty to Count One of an Information charging him with filing a false tax return. Lewis entered his guilty plea before U.S. Magistrate Judge Esther Salas, who has recommended to U.S. District Judge Jose L. Linares that the plea be accepted.

At his plea hearing, Lewis admitted that in 2004 and 2005, he received income from All American Funding Services, a mortgage broker company that he owned, as well as from All American Abstract Incorporated, a real estate appraisal company in which he was a shareholder. Despite earning in excess of \$600,000 from the two companies in 2004 and 2005, Lewis willfully signed and caused to be filed false tax returns for those years, resulting in a tax loss to the government of between \$80,000 and \$200,000.

The count to which Lewis pleaded – which concerns his failure to report the more than \$300,000 in income he had earned in 2004 – carries a maximum potential penalty of three years in prison and a fine of \$100,000, together with the costs of prosecution. Under the terms of the plea agreement, Lewis will also have to file accurate amended returns for calendar years 2004 and 2005. Judge Salas set bail at \$250,000 pending sentencing, scheduled for June 6, 2011.

U.S. Attorney Fishman credited special agents with the IRS, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Victor W. Lessoff, with the investigation leading to the guilty plea.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph Mack of the U.S. Attorney's Office Criminal Division.

11-074 ###

Defense counsel: Lorraine Gauli-Rufo, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Newark